

copyright information including the identities of the copyrighted works, the identities of the owners of the copyrights for the copyrighted works and data related to the costs for downloading the copyrighted works at said receiving side;

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receiving means for receiving downloading information, sent from the receiving side, said downloading information identifying selected copyrighted works distributed from the distribution side and downloaded at said receiving side, indicating that said receiving side's downloading of said selected copyrighted works was authorized and indicating that an accounting has occurred for said receiving side's payment for said downloading; and

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copyright management means for performing copyright management related to the copyright for each selected copyrighted work in response to said downloading information and based upon said downloading information and the copyright information, said copyright management including calculating a copyright payment due each owner of the copyrights for the selected copyrighted works.

2. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyright management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said copyright information storage means further stores

program identification information, said program identification information including the identity of a television program featuring broadcasted copyrighted works transmitted from said distribution side, the identities of said broadcasted copyrighted works, a broadcasting time for said television program and the identities of channels on which said broadcasted copyrighted works are transmitted, and wherein said copyright management means also performs said copyright management based upon said program identification information.

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3. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyright management apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said copyright management means searches the program identification information to obtain the identities of said broadcasted copyrighted works, refers to the copyright information using said identities to obtain the identities of the owners of the copyrights for the selected copyrighted works and data related to the costs for downloading the selected copyrighted works at said receiving side and calculates a copyright fee to be paid to said owners.

4. (AMENDED) A copyright management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the downloading information is sent from the receiving side through a predetermined customer management center.

5. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyright management apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the customer management center calculates a fee to be paid by a customer at the receiving side on the basis of said downloading information sent from the receiving side.

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7. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyright management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the copyrighted works are enciphered and distributed to said receiving side.

9. (AMENDED) A copyright management apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the copyrighted works include digitized musical pieces.

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10. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution apparatus used for a copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system in which a distribution side generates copyrighted works and distributes the copyrighted works through a given transmission path, and a receiving side pays a receiving fee for the copyrighted works, comprising:

distribution means for distributing a plurality of copyrighted works through the transmission path;

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copyright information storage means for storing copyright information related to the copyrighted works, said copyright information including the identities of the copyrighted works, the identities of the owners of the copyrights for the copyrighted works and data related to the costs for downloading the copyrighted works at said receiving side;

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receiving means for receiving downloading information, sent from the receiving side, said downloading information identifying selected copyrighted works distributed from said distribution means and downloaded at said receiving side, indicating that said receiving side's downloading of said selected copyrighted works was authorized and indicating that an accounting has occurred for said receiving side's payment for said downloading; and

copyright management means for performing copyright management related to the copyright for each selected copyrighted work in response to said downloading information and based upon said downloading information and the copyright information, said copyright management including calculating a copyright payment due each owner of the copyrights for the selected copyrighted works.

11. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said copyright information storage means further stores

program identification information, said program identification information including the identity of a television program featuring broadcasted copyrighted works transmitted from said distribution means, the identities of said broadcasted copyrighted works, a broadcasting time for said television program and the identities of channels on which said broadcasted copyrighted works are transmitted, and wherein said

copyright management means also performs said copyright management based upon said program identification information.

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12. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said copyright management means searches the program identification information to obtain the identities of said broadcasted copyrighted works, refers to the copyright information using said identities to obtain the identities of the owners of the copyrights for the selected copyrighted works and data related to the costs for downloading the selected copyrighted works at said receiving side and calculates a copyright fee to be paid to said owners.

13. (AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the downloading information is sent from the receiving side through a predetermined customer management center.

14. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein the customer management center calculates a fee to be paid by a customer at the receiving side on the basis of said downloading information sent from the receiving side.

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16. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the copyrighted works are enciphered and distributed to said receiving side.

18. (AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the copyrighted works include digitized musical pieces.

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19. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system in which a distribution side generates copyrighted works and distributes the copyrighted works through a given transmission path, and a receiving side pays a receiving fee for the copyrighted works, comprising:

distribution means for distributing a plurality of copyrighted works through the transmission path;

copyright information storage means for storing copyright information related to the copyrighted works, said copyright information including the identities of the copyrighted works, the identities of the owners of the copyrights for the copyrighted works and data related to the costs for downloading the copyrighted works at said receiving side;

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a receiving-side apparatus for receiving the copyrighted works distributed from said distribution means and for sending downloading information, said downloading information identifying selected copyrighted works distributed from said distribution means and downloaded at said receiving side, indicating that said receiving side's downloading of said selected copyrighted works was authorized and indicating that an accounting has occurred for said receiving side's payment for said downloading;

receiving means for receiving said downloading information from said receiving-side apparatus; and

copyright management means for performing copyright management related to the copyright for each selected copyrighted work in response to said downloading information and based upon said downloading information and the copyright information, said copyright management including calculating a copyright payment due each owner of the copyrights for the selected copyrighted works.

20. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system according to Claim 19, wherein said copyright information storage means further stores

program identification information, said program identification information including the identity of a television program featuring broadcasted copyrighted works transmitted from said distribution means, the identities of said broadcasted copyrighted works, a broadcasting time for said

television program and the identities of channels on which said broadcasted copyrighted works are transmitted, and wherein said copyright management means also performs said copyright management based upon said program identification information.

21. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system according to Claim 20, wherein said copyright management means searches the program identification information to obtain the identities of said broadcasted copyrighted works, refers to the copyright information using said identities to obtain the identities of the owners of the copyrights for the selected copyrighted works and data related to the costs for downloading the selected copyrighted works at said receiving side and calculates a copyright fee to be paid to said owners.

22. (AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system according to Claim 19, wherein the downloading information is sent from the receiving side through a predetermined customer management center.

23. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system according to Claim 22, wherein the customer management center calculates a fee to be paid by a customer at the receiving side on the basis of said downloading information sent from the receiving side.

24. (AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system according to Claim 19, wherein said receiving means also receives customer information related to a customer at the receiving side.

25. (TWICE AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system according to Claim 19, wherein the distribution means enciphers and distributes the copyrighted works to said receiving side.

27. (AMENDED) A copyrighted-work distribution-and-receiving system according to Claim 19, wherein the copyrighted works include digitized musical pieces.

28. (AMENDED) A system for distributing copyrighted works and managing payments owed as a result of the distributing to the owners of the copyrights in the copyrighted works, said system comprising:

a server adapted to serve said copyrighted works through a first transmission system to a receiving facility;

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a communication interface adapted to receive through a second transmission system downloading information, said downloading information identifying selected copyrighted works downloaded by said receiving facility, indicating that said receiving facility's downloading of said selected copyrighted works was authorized and indicating that an accounting has occurred for said receiving facility's payment for said downloading;

a memory adapted to store copyright information corresponding to each of said copyrighted works, said information providing the identity of the copyrighted work, the identity of the owner of the copyright for the copyrighted work and data relating to the cost for downloading the copyrighted work by said receiving facility;

a processor, in communication with said memory and said communication interface, adapted to calculate, in response to said downloading information and on the basis of said downloading information and said copyright information, a copyright payment due each owner of the copyrights for the selected copyrighted works.

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31. (AMENDED) A system as in claim 28, wherein said copyright information further provides a copyright fee ratio.

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36. (AMENDED) A system as in claim 28, wherein said second transmission system comprises a customer management center for receiving data from said receiving facility corresponding to the purchase of said selected copyrighted works

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and for transmitting said downloading information to said communication interface.

38. (AMENDED) A system as in claim 28, wherein said selected copyrighted works are decrypted by said receiving facility.

39. (AMENDED) A system as in claim 28, wherein said processor is further adapted to store data identifying said copyright payment in said memory.

40. (AMENDED) A method for distributing copyrighted works and managing payments owed as a result of the distributing to the owners of the copyrights in the copyrighted works, said method comprising:

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serving from a server said copyrighted works through a first transmission system to a receiving facility;

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receiving at a communication interface through a second transmission system downloading information, said downloading information identifying selected copyrighted works downloaded by said receiving facility, indicating that said receiving facility's downloading of said selected copyrighted works was authorized and indicating that an accounting has occurred for said receiving facility's payment for said downloading;

storing in a memory copyright information corresponding to each of said copyrighted works, said information providing the identity of the copyrighted work, the identity of the owner of the copyright for the copyrighted work and data relating to the cost for downloading the copyrighted work by said receiving facility;

calculating with a processor, in communication with said memory and said communication interface, in response to said downloading information and on the basis of said downloading information and said copyright information, a copyright payment due each owner of the copyrights for the selected copyrighted works.

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43. (AMENDED) A method as in claim 40, wherein said copyright information further provides a copyright fee ratio.

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48. (AMENDED) A method as in claim 40, wherein said second transmission system comprises a customer management center for receiving data from said receiving facility corresponding to the purchase of said selected copyrighted works and further comprising transmitting said downloading information to said communication interface from said customer management center.

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50. (AMENDED) A method as in claim 40, further comprising decrypting said selected copyrighted works from said receiving facility.

51. (AMENDED) A method as in claim 40, further comprising storing data identifying said copyright payment in said memory.